

## University of Groningen

### Molecular and biomolecular switches

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# Stellingen

Behorende bij het proefschrift van  
Martin Walko

- 1) It is surprising to find that, despite the wide application of azobenzene chromophore as a switching unit, the only general review on azobenzenes is almost 20 years old.

Rau, H. In *Photochemistry and Photophysics*; Rebek, J. F., Ed.; CRC Press: Boca Raton, 1990; Vol. 2, pp. 119-141.

- 2) Chemistry, dealing with molecules having dimensions in nanometers, is the only science that has been truly “nano” long before the prefix nano- started its glowing career in the field of natural sciences. The term “nanotechnology” looks, in this respect, a bit artificial.
- 3) “Chemistry takes a unique position among the natural sciences for it deals not only with material from natural sources but creates the major parts of its object by synthesis.”

Prelog, V. *Science* **1976**, *193*, 18.

- 4) A typical question for a master student is: “How to synthesize a certain molecule”. A typical question for a PhD student should be: “Why to synthesize a certain molecule”.
- 5) You shouldn’t see a function behind every molecule; you should see the function before the molecule.
- 6) Writing a project proposal or an introduction for an article becomes more of a public relations work, than scientific writing.
- 7) Chemistry is much like a LEGO for grown ups, you can use your imagination to envision function, design ingenuity to propose a molecule and skills to synthesize it. Thus, I would like to thank Dutch tax-payers for allowing me to play for four years in the lab.

- 8) It must be really annoying for the editor when his name is misspelled on the cover of the book he edited (Gugliemetti instead of Guglielmetti).

*Organic Photochromic and Thermochemical Compounds Volume 1*;  
Crano, J. C.; Guglielmetti, R. J., Eds.; Kluwer Academic Publishers:  
New York, 1999.

- 9) Luckily this guy is not a scientist.  
"I know what I believe. I will continue to articulate what I believe and what I believe -I believe what I believe is right."

*G.W.Bush, Rome, July 22, 2001*